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## Peter Hartung's 2013 New Year Message

16 January 2013

Dear Friends,

This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Adelaide Institute's inception, and my 4<sup>th</sup> year as Director.

Adelaide Institute was formed initially because two public events came together, the first in 1991 with the Adelaide War Crimes Trials targeting Eastern European immigrants who had come to Australia after the war. When the Soviet Union collapsed in 1989 it was Mark Aaron who delved deep into the Kiev, Ukraine, archives to find evidence of Ukrainians having persecuted Jews. We saw this pure act of vengeance fizzle in Adelaide because British Common Law principles defeated fabricated evidence.

Then the 1994 screening of *Schindler's List* propagated a false history of a specific event, and it was Mr David Brockschmidt whose father was involved in transporting Schindler's Jews from Poland to Czechoslovakia and so he knew the facts of this event. This was an important physical fact written out of the Spielberg film. It was also not mentioned in Thomas Keneally's book: *Schindler's Ark, on which the film is based*. Brockschmidt advised both of this physical fact but they ignored it. Why did they ignore it? Because it was one of those inconvenient historical facts that disturbed a good sob story by opening up the issue to deeper questioning of such events.

And that's where Adelaide Institute came in – to ask those questions that academics and others fear to ask. Remember, we have a lecturer at Adelaide University who threatens students into silence by responding to their questioning with: 'You question borders on the offensive'. So the truth hurts – but truth will always emerge as German philosopher Arthur Schopenhauer reminds us: first it is ridiculed, then it is violently opposed, then it is accepted as a given fact.

Former AI Director, Dr Fredrick Töben, who has led a much more colourful life than most of us ever will, continues to be a great source of inspiration to me through his rock solid convictions and steadfast friendship. Jailed in three countries, and now bankrupted – by self appointed enforcers of Historical lies – for his fearless pursuit of truth all this for him is like 'water off a duck's back' to. Perhaps it is the former schoolteacher in him – observing how naughty schoolboys play out their little shenanigans!

Bankrupt he may be, but he has not lost his sense of humour, and his faithful friends and supporters can be counted upon to hand over a few schekels should the need ever arise. I must say that it is quite amusing for me to reflect on the behaviour of his adversaries, which always reminds me of the Three Stooges!

And so, 2013 will surely not see our work diminish in any way because the fact that so-called 'Holocaust studies' has become a compulsory subject in New South Wales, shows the fabricators and outright liars are still tinkering at this World War Two historical narrative.

Fredrick did say to me that were a judge to ask him: 'Are you still at it?', he would reply in usual forthright and honest way: 'Yes, your Honour, but not as much as before!'

With best wishes to you all for the coming year.

Peter Hartung

# David Brockschmidt's Open letter to Michael Leunig

21 December 2012 – 'End of the world'!

Dear Michael

In your article published in the Melbourne Age dated 11 December 2012, *Just a Cartoonist with a moral duty to speak*, you complain that the Zionists call you an 'Antisemite'.

This is a contradiction in itself, because the Zionist ilk world-wide and in Israel are to 90 per cent non-Semitic Ashkenazi European Jews. Remember the cause-and-effect factor: Where there is Semitism, there is anti-Gentilism; where there is anti-Gentilism, there is anti-Semitism.

The Zionists do not only run the State of Israel and the foreign policy of the United States and other foreign nations but as well most of the financial centres of the world for the last 250 years – and if you look at the Old Testament, even since Roman times the people of Judea ran the money game. You would know, however, that usury and speculation is not their invention but they certainly developed such activity into a fine art.

Myer Amshel Rothschild the founder of the House of Rothschild in Frankfurt, Germany, at the beginning of his career stated: 'Give me the money of a country and I do not care about their laws'. You would be aware of the fact that the meaning of this quotation extends to non-Jewish bankers as well, for example, the Rockefellers.

Yes, indeed, a door has been closed to you, Michael, as you say but who wants to walk through this door anyway? If you do, Michael, you would only be a "shabbes Goy", anyway.

Remember Michael we Gentiles-Goy's are only animals in human form – that's according to Jewish Talmudic teachings. We are there only to serve the Chosenites – this according to the Chief Sephardic Rabbi in Jerusalem and the Talmudic teachings. Read the antigentilic parts of the Babylonian

Talmud which is the holiest books of Judaism and its moral guideline.

You say, 'I am not against Israel' and this comment leaves me speechless.

The State of Israel, as you know, was founded with the help of Imperial Great Britain in order to establish a colonial bridgehead in the Middle East to rob the Arab world of their resources.

Zionist settlements did not start in 1948 in Palestine but began around 120 years ago, in 1890.

Perhaps you should read the books by the Jewish Israeli writers Ilan Pappé and the Holocaust Survivor, the late professor Israel Shahaak. My advice to you is not to appease the Zionists because you are already a marked man. Your cartoons and essays are too close to their and the West's own ugly historical truth. If you don't understand what I mean by that read Alexander Solzhenitsyn's essay, "The Betrayal of the West".

Attack is the best defence, Michael. Confront the Zionists with the historical facts. Your defence against being called an Antisemite' is in my view luke-warm and half-hearted. You cannot be half pregnant and remember, Allah is not with the half-hearted.

You say, 'I'm not sure whether it is legal to publicly call someone an Antisemite without evidence, but it certainly feels like hate-talk for me'. Now you are going down a slippery slope, Michael. The religious and racial vilification act in Australia, with which you probably agree are now used against you. This Act makes it clear that truth is no defence. They are nothing else but the product of political correctness, which is and I agree, intellectual terrorism, so according to Dame Leonie Kramer. And it is also, as Paddy McGuinness said, 'lying by legislation', in our brave new world. It is beyond my comprehension how you can support the State of Israel – a state for Jews only. This is a

racist concept in itself. In Israel there is no division between state and religious authorities. Israel's foundations were built on the blood and bones of the original owners of this land, the Palestinians.

Israel treats its non-Jewish inhabitants, especially the original owners of the land, the Palestinians, as non-citizens and even discriminates against Jewish minorities, like the Fallacha Jews from Ethiopia.

Israel is a state in which a Jew cannot marry a non-Jew, or vice versa. If this is not racism and religious insanity, then I don't know what racism and religious insanity is, Michael.

Do you say, 'I'm not against Israel because you are of German descent and because you feel guilty of what happened to some of European Jewry? If yes, I'm asking you whether the Palestinians should pay the price for it – losing their land and lives for what happened in Europe during World War Two.

You also complain that your freedom of speech is restricted, and the Zionist and their fellow gentile travellers call you an Antisemite. You also raise the question if this is legal, and you say it 'feels like hate-speech' to you.

The way I understand that comment of yours is that you are all in favour of freedom of speech as long as it suits you personally – and your political agenda. If it does not suit you, you say, 'It certainly feels like hate-speech'.

Do I miss something here, Michael? I am all eyes and ears. Please educate me.

Religious and political Zionism is not democracy. So when they move in for the kill don't put your bets on your Gentile fans because for ages they have already been in bed with the Zionist.

I would like to use your Pastor Niemöller quote here: 'There will be no body left to defend you when they come to get you'.

Besides all the praise and hugs and Judas kisses you receive from your fans, Michael, when they come to get you, you'll be on your own.

Truth-telling is a revolutionary act, not only according to George Orwell. But there is a price to pay. You say 'Pastor Niemöller was a Nazi supporter but a decade after World War Two he became an anti-Nazi', a pacifist. I am asking you, why did it take Pastor Niemöller ten years, from 1945 to 1955, to become an anti-Nazi? That sounds a bit strange to me, Michael, and would he not have stayed a Nazi had the Axis powers won World War Two?

The masses always follow the leader because they don't want to take responsibility for their own actions. If you kill one person, you are a murderer. If you are a leader in wartimes where millions get killed, you will be called a conqueror of nations – as long as you win the war. If you lose the war, the victor will have just another Nürnberg for you. As Winston Churchill said, 'Historical truth, especially in wartime, is so precious that it has to be protected by an army of lies'. Here I give you the German version, Michael, and let me quote the old Stalinist Berthold Brecht: 'Der Sieger entstellt dem Besiegten die Züge und zurück bleibt die Lüge.'

Finally, remember what Churchill also said: 'History will be kind to me because I intend to write it'.

Political Correctness has changed language and thought structures

world-wide. In the past an Antisemite was a person who didn't like Jews. Today an Antisemite is a person the Jews don't like.

So welcome and come on board, Michael. Let me quote from some of Andrew Bolt's articles regarding political correctness: 'In the past a "misogynist" was a hater of women. Today it means just being old fashioned. "Intercept" once meant to halt or cut off from an intended destination. Now it means exactly the opposite. To help boat people to go just where they wanted. "Carbon" no longer means a black solid-like soot, but carbon dioxide, that harmless clear gas. "Racist" means shut up; "right-wing" means evil; "shock-jock" means not ABC-approved; "reconciliation means grievance, etc.

Here you are, Michael, you have signed up to the great political correct multi-cultural new world order and now the revolution eats its own children. As they say in our mutual motherland, 'Mitgefangen-Mitgehangen'.

Lastly, let me say that I too have been called an Antisemite, Michael. So you are in good company here. There will always be an army of chabbes Goys, poisoned pens artists and ink pissers who do the dirty work for their paymasters. I'm thinking here mainly of politicians, lobbyists and presstitutes. As the old Stalinist Bertold Brecht said: 'Whose bread I eat, his song I sing'.

Regarding my own person I may inform you that I spent some time in Israel, on and off, but mainly in

1967 during the dreadful 6-day war, which is still on-going to this day. In 1967 I was risking my life many times for the State of Israel, and if I would have known then what I now know, then I would have to admit that this was a mistake on my part. The Zionists can call me a right-winger or an Antisemite but this label will not stick on me nor on my parents who are 'Righteous Gentiles' honoured by both Germany and Israel for having saved the lives of Jews during World War Two. My father was one of Oskar Schindler's business partners during World War Two and I personally met Schindler in Tel Aviv in 1967.

Political and religious Zionism, which was once declared a form of racism by the UN will not survive, but the Jewish people will, provided their leaders in and outside Israel will reconcile with the Palestinian people, accept their right-of-return to their stolen land, and make Israel-Palestine a secular state where all citizens have the same rights and duties regardless of their religion or race.

If this cannot be achieved, then I fear the prophecies of the Old Testament will be fulfilled: "The destruction of the Jewish people will not come from the outside but from within".

Sincerely

David W Brockschmidt

Adelaide

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## **Just a cartoonist with a moral duty to speak**

**Michael Leunig, December 11, 2012**

### **The cartoonist's task is not to be balanced but to give balance.**

SEVERAL years ago I was invited to speak at Melbourne's Jewish Museum on the subject of "The cartoonist as society's conscience". I gladly accepted but within a week was informed by the museum that the invitation had been withdrawn because of my views on Israel. Although I had been somewhat critical of aggressive Israeli government policies I had never publicly outlined my broad views on

Israel and was puzzled by the cancellation and bemused by the gross irony of being excluded from a discussion about conscience because I had acted with conscience in my work.

Upon reflection I wondered if an internal philosophical disagreement lay behind this peculiar cancellation. Whatever, a door had been closed to me.

I relate this tale as a backdrop to more recent circumstances in which it has been publicly inferred that I am anti-Semitic because of a cartoon I created expressing sad dismay at the plight and suffering of the Palestinians in the recent bombardment of Gaza.

As a cartoonist I am not interested in defending the dominant, the powerful, the well-resourced and the well-armed because such

groups are usually not in need of advocacy, moral support or sympathetic understanding; they have already organised sufficient publicity for themselves and prosecute their points of view with great efficiency.

The work of the artist is to express what is repressed or even to speak the unspoken grief of society. And the cartoonist's task is not so much to be balanced as to give balance, particularly in situations of disproportionate power relationships such as we see in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It is a healthy tradition dating back to the court jester and beyond: to be the dissenting protesting voice that speaks when others cannot or will not.

My recent cartoon ("First they came for the Palestinians ...") was a lament based on the famous lines attributed to Pastor Martin Niemöller that neatly highlight the way apathetic or frightened silence in the face of injustice is a dereliction of moral duty. It is interesting to note that Niemöller had been an active Nazi supporter but a decade after the war became a pacifist.

Although greatly valued in contemporary Jewish culture, the poem's message is universal and eternal; it could apply to any oppressed group, including the Palestinians who, even with their relatively feeble rockets, are so obviously oppressed.

In spite of all the highly organised rhetoric justifying Israel's actions, the intuitive, heartfelt moral shape of the situation is becoming clearer and more obvious to the world the longer the conflict goes on. When all is said and done, it looks like the

Palestinians have been massively robbed and abused, and are engaged in a desperate struggle for survival and liberation. Israel on the other hand would appear to be conducting an imperialistic campaign of oppression supported and substantially armed by the most powerful nation on earth. My cartoonist's duty and conscience compel me to focus on the plight of the subjugated, the ones most neglected, severely deprived and cruelly afflicted.

I am not against Israel but I am opposed to what I regard as its self-defeating, self-corrupting militarist policy, which is not only excessively homicidal and traumatising but sows the seeds of irreversible hatred and can never bring a lasting peace. One expects more from a prosperous democratic country. It's as if this young nation Israel has not yet come to maturity; so delinquent, irresponsible and unwise are its actions.

I sense that the Jewish community in this country is itself increasingly divided on the question. I also suspect that the more aggressive Israel supporters fear this moral unease and quiet doubt in their community and are angered by any cartoons or commentary that might encourage such doubt. In spite of what the bullies say, I suspect they are not really upset by any "anti-Semitism" in my cartoons (there is none) but by the possible impact of a cartoon on the doubters. The better the cartoon, the more it must be discredited. What cheaper way to discredit than the toxic smear of anti-Semitism.

I am not sure whether it is legal to publicly call someone an anti-Semite without evidence but it

certainly feels like hate talk to me, as well as a damaging thing to say about someone who does not agree with you. That's often why it is said of course.

At my advanced age, I know I am not an anti-Semite, not even vaguely or remotely, but others would seem to know better as false accusers always do. If only there was some sort of test I could sit for to clarify the situation, but there is no science to this obsessive and vapid denunciation. It's cynical, it's bullying and it's lazy. Stupidly, it's also a case of the boys who cry wolf.

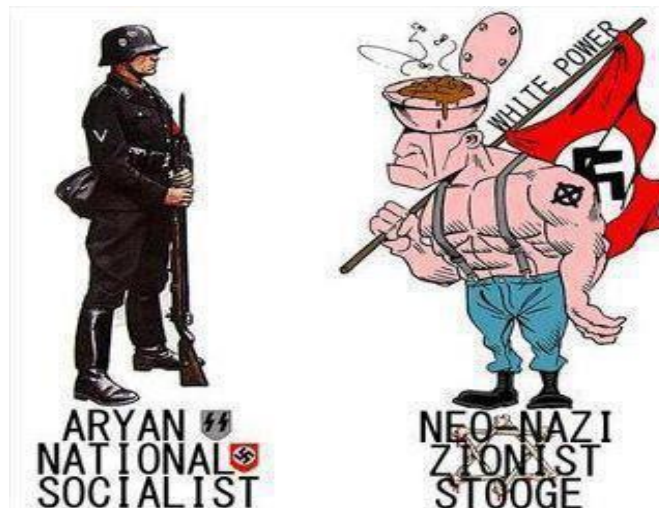
Over the years it has been implied that I am "a second degree anti-Semite", "a new-world anti-Semite" and a "latent anti-Semite" as well as a simple old-fashioned common or garden anti-Semite. I now learn to my amazement that to make comparisons between Israeli policy and any Nazi behaviour is in itself an anti-Semitic act. So much for free speech. I say all nations that throw their military weight around, occupying neighbouring lands and treating the residents with callous and humiliating disregard are already sliding towards the dark possibilities in human nature.

My cartoons have also had me labelled a misogynist, a blasphemer, a homophobe, a royalist, a misanthrope and a traitor, to name but a few. I would sum it all up by saying: I am a cartoonist.

**Michael Leunig is an Age cartoonist.**

<http://www.theage.com.au/opinion/society-and-culture/just-a-cartoonist-with-a-moral-duty-to-speak-20121210-2b5hi.html#ixzz2FSqUV0q8>

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# No price on free speech

By: LOUIS NOWRA, [The Australian](#), December 15, 2012 12:00AM



Members of the Westboro Baptist Church in the US are known for their extreme anti-gay positions and for protesting at the funerals of American servicemen. Picture: AFP Source: AFP

**AT first I thought it was a joke, but it turned out to be true. Two women decided to take me to the Human Rights Commission, complaining about a play I had written. Set in Sarajevo, it was based on a beauty pageant held during the siege in the Balkan conflict. I wrote it because I was tired of films and plays that depicted the misery of the events, always portraying the besieged as victims. I was more interested in the beauty contestants symbolising the resilience of the human spirit.**

The two women had no connection to the siege or the ethnic groups involved. However, they had decided that I was pro-Serbian and the clincher was that one of the actresses in the Melbourne production had a Serb background. The women wanted royalties from previous productions confiscated and demanded the play be banned because it was a piece of Serbian propaganda.

Their interpretation of the play couldn't have been more wrong, so much so that I wondered just how bright they were. But if I thought the ludicrous nature of the complaint would be laughed off by

the HRC, then I didn't understand its bureaucratic mission. For a year I had to deal with hundreds of pages pouring out of the commission and had to engage a lawyer. The complaint eventually was thrown out but, not to be denied, these two dolts found a loophole in the law and appealed again. It was nearly another year before this appeal was dismissed. During this time I didn't write a play. I found I was censoring myself. Just what could I write that wouldn't offend anybody, even if they took offence from a total misinterpretation of the play? What subjects would cause other people to take me to the HRC? What disturbed me above all was that there was no attempt to understand my side of the story. If the two women intended to creatively paralyse me then they couldn't have found a better bureaucratic vehicle.

During my career a Christian family tried for several years to have my play *Summer of the Aliens* banned from the school curriculum using newspapers and television to promote their cause. Film reviewer David Stratton considered a film I wrote to be racist and I found

myself tabloid fodder. (He made the classic mistake of believing that if a character is racist then the writer and director must be.)

You'd think that left-wingers would defend freedom of speech but, as I was to discover, they may espouse liberal views but not when it concerns themselves. I wrote pieces on Germaine Greer, Bob Ellis and mentioned in passing the humourless Richard Flanagan, all with progressive attitudes, but the first response of all three was to threaten to sue. Not that academics are much better. Two female academics withdrew their subscriptions from the magazine that published the Greer article; the frightening thing was that they were proud of the fact they refused to even read the piece.

What truly bothered me was that some people said it was brave of me to have written the article and it confirmed just how conformist and insular are most of those who would describe themselves as liberal or left-leaning. It is not as if authors are any different. It seems many subscribe to the idea that novels must be of educational and moral value.

Writer and teacher Christopher Bantick recently wrote that Gabriel Garcia Marquez's *Love in the Time of Cholera* should not be taught to final-year high school students because it "says repeatedly that screwing a child for art's sake is excusable". In the novel the main character, an amoral Lothario, Florentino Ariza, has an affair with a 14-year-old girl when he is 76. Bantick doesn't see a complicated character and ambiguous morality working here; all he sees is child abuse.

I was once talking to some of Australia's best women writers and all loathed Vladimir Nabokov's novel *Lolita*, summing up the beautiful, morally complex story as "a pedophile's charter". In other words, these writers treat literature as a form of moral instruction and therefore their sensibilities are easily offended by authors such as Marquez and Nabokov.

But just what is offensive? Twitter's billions of tweets carry some of the most vile remarks one could read. Take, for example, Aboriginal academic and lawyer Larissa Behrendt. In one tweet she described watching bestiality on television as "less offensive than Bess Price", an Aboriginal woman in favour of the Northern Territory intervention. Behrendt blamed the comment on the TV show *Deadwood* which, she said, "seemed pretty offensive". The logic seemed simple: she was offended, so she was careless about offending someone whose views she didn't agree with. All it did was offend Price and reveal Behrendt's real thoughts, and they're not pretty (though the tweet did have a vividness missing from her banal novels).

Cartoonist Michael Leunig has been frequently criticised for his supposed anti-Semitic attitudes. Recently a cartoon of his in *The Age* equated the actions of Israel in Gaza to those of the Nazis, and for many Jews it seemed that Leunig was saying that the Jews were committing genocide against the Palestinians. The cartoonist justified his position as "all nations that throw their military weight around, occupying neighbouring lands and treating the residents with callous and humiliating disregard, are already sliding towards the dark possibilities in human nature." Dvir Abramovich, chairman of the Anti-

Defamation Commission, criticised the cartoonist and wondered "how a survivor of the Holocaust would react when they came upon his cartoon". If one did, I am sure that he or she would be offended, but is offending one person a reason to ban a cartoon?

There are many cartoonists who view it as their job to take unpopular stances that many may judge as offensive. Frankly I found Bob Carr forcing the Prime Minister to change her support for Israel in the recent UN vote on Palestine more offensive than any cartoon. Carr took the action because NSW Right Labor MPs feared a no vote could offend Middle Eastern and Muslim communities in marginal southwestern Sydney seats before next year's federal election. Never mind that many Muslims, especially those of the Middle East, are anti-Semitic.

I may be offended by anti-Semitic comments but I believe that even Holocaust deniers have a right to free speech. Of course it's always nice when a denier such as historian David Irving gets his comeuppance, as happened when he brought an unsuccessful case against another historian, with the judge finding Irving was an anti-Semite, racist and associated with neo-Nazis.

Louis Theroux's recent documentary on a fundamentalist church in the US whose members turn up at the funerals of American servicemen with placards calling the dead men and their families "Fags" and "Dirty Jews" was shocking, yet I respect a nation that allows even these crazies the right to offend.

Australia is less tolerant because we are a very conformist society that dislikes whistleblowers, eccentrics and the unusual. We put up with the Defence Force and government treating us like dummies. The war in Afghanistan is reported to us through spin doctors. We see VC winners and rescued dogs but not the true nature of the conflict. If we want to know what is really happening then we must read the huge library of American and English journalists in the field. Julia Gillard talks as if we're winning there, even though the Pentagon has realised that the withdrawal of US forces will be a disaster for Afghanistan. The equation is easy in Australia: if you criticise the war then you must be criticising our

brave troops. Few nations would put up with this codswallop.

If we allow anyone behavioural latitude, then it's towards the larrikin. Two such larrikins, DJs working for 2Day FM radio, made a hoax call to an English hospital where they tricked ward nurses into giving details about Kate Middleton, who was in the hospital at the time. The prank allegedly so devastated one of the nurses that she committed suicide. The result was that the two DJs were vilified by the media and those on the net, and their protective status as larrikins vanished in the media hysteria. Columnist Miranda Devine said of the prank that "we are witnessing the Boratisation of our culture, where decent people are deliberately offended".

But just who are the decent people? Devine herself? Quite simply, it's becoming very easy to offend.

Shock jock Alan Jones made a callous comment about Gillard's recently deceased father. The result was an uproar where those thousands who were offended ganged up on him and forced advertisers to withdraw from his talkback show. It was an example of what is becoming common - cyber lynching. Like those mindless mobs in the Wild West, they are driven by self-righteousness and lust for revenge. One has to ask where were these thousands of offended people when Jones called Sydney's Lebanese Muslims "vermin" who "infest our shores" and "rape" and "pillage" our nation. Jones's incitement was more than offensive; it was despicable.

Some people are easily offended, others are not; yet we have the Racial Discrimination Act that makes it unlawful to "offend" people. Attorney-General Nicola Roxon is preparing to consolidate present anti-discrimination laws from five acts into one planned overhaul of anti-discrimination laws. Her view of the Australian people is that of a private school headmistress announcing to her pupils that the new laws will "help everyone understand what behaviour is expected".

Exactly what behaviour is expected? Probably it will be based on her own middle-class, middlebrow values and attitudes.

This is part of an ongoing project by the Labor government to impose its morality and values on our culture.

Part of its mission is to tame what it sees as an unruly populace and media. It used the British phone-hacking scandal to hold an inquiry into the Australian media. Really, this was the government wanting to get back at their critics, especially News Limited. The Finkelstein report proposed a News Media Council, which would have the legally enforceable power to adjudicate on journalist fairness and make the media answerable to the courts. A deadly and expensive combination of lawyers and academics would make up the panel.

The trouble with that is that many academics are not interested in free speech and are captives of groupthink. They may make token comments about liberal values but universities, as I found out as a student and later a teacher at Queensland University and Yale, are anything but bastions of free speech. They promote a culture where if you do not agree with the prevailing ideological orthodoxy then it's death to your career. The attitude is summed up by Wendy Bacon, who heads the journalism school at the University of Technology, Sydney. She saw the Finkelstein report as it really was - an attack on News Limited - and given she considered that organisation a threat to free speech, chose not to defend the concept. Like many of her ilk, she appears to loathe the tabloids and any organisation that disagrees with her left-wing values. The idea of competing ideas and diversity of opinions seems to be anathema to her.

After Ray Finkelstein handed in his report, Lord Justice Brian Leveson, head of Britain's media ethics inquiry, delivered his 2000-page report into what was morally reprehensible behaviour by some British journalists and editors. But it was interesting that only five paragraphs in the report were about the net and the issues it raises for

media regulation. Like Finkelstein, Leveson viewed his job as neutering the press by the subtle threat of an independent board. What he didn't realise was that compared with the internet even the most feral tabloids are models of restraint. Rumours, gossip and hatred are part of the DNA of cyberspace. Newspapers obey court injunctions, but the embargo is broken by the net. It has been all too common to see on the net the news that someone has died, who hasn't, people named as pedophiles when they're not, and private photographs plastered on websites. Some people point to WikiLeaks as something that could happen only on the internet. But Julian Assange is no journalist. He was able to funnel a huge amount of information given to him and release it on the net. He was just a facilitator. But it required newspapers to print the material for it to really matter in the wider world.

The net may provide photographs and information that journalists can't cover but newspapers are more essential than ever. It requires time, money and resources to undertake thorough investigations. If it weren't for journalists we wouldn't know the extent of corruption in NSW Labor politics and there wouldn't be the present Independent Commission Against Corruption investigation of the Obeid family and disgraced politician Ian Macdonald.

The net cannot offer anything like that. It's a medium that celebrates a short attention span. It glories in cyber-lynchings as if the foaming indignation is a sign that those taking part in it - and all you have to do is push a button - are morally right. Much of its vitriol is delivered by anonymous people; it's a medium for cowards.

What is of concern in the real world is that a small group of like-minded elites are determined to restrict free speech unless the speech agrees

with their outlook on life and values. Instead of diversity and inclusiveness, these people want to determine our proper "behaviour", to use Roxon's term.

It's a sign that Australia is losing its larrikin personality and that those cultural and political elites want a tame society in their image. It's not unlike middle-class professionals shifting into the red-light district of Kings Cross and afterwards sanitising it, excluding and deriding everyone except clones of themselves.

An integral part of this push is the notion of offence. But really offence is hard to define. Yes, comments such as Behrendt's are offensive, but do they do deep harm? She suffered justified criticism and repented. Leunig's cartoon may offend a Holocaust survivor but it may have forced many readers to rethink their attitudes towards the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The notion of offensiveness is one that changes through the years. We once banned offensive novels such as *Lolita* and *Ulysses*; now they are studied. As we discover in the playground, sticks and stones do not hurt as much as words. But that is the nature of human beings; we can taunt and hurt with what we say. If there is one thing that shouldn't be condoned it is comments that go beyond offensive abuse to the incitement of hatred and physical violence.

There has been a slow and sinister attempt to control the old media and to modify our words and thoughts through legislation. The problem is that free speech is coming under attack from those who think it's their duty to morally correct us. Any time a government does that then it becomes certain that the laws they bring in will be used in the future to control us even more.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/features/no-price-on-free-speech/story-e6frg6z6-1226537169726>

## Where free speech is dead as the dodo

By: **James Delingpole**, [The Australian](#), December 21, 2012 12:00AM

**AUSTRALIA you are so totally gay. I mean "gay", of course, in the offensive, playground, politically incorrect sense of the word.**

As in: "Your Dad's car is totally gay." Or: "That shark was so gay he didn't even manage to take your whole leg off."

This is the kind of usage that would have you arrested in Australia

these days, such is the gag-making political correctness of the land they once called the Lucky Country but which now ought more properly to be named the Haringey of the southern hemisphere.



When I tell this to people who've never been to Oz they are usually surprised. Australia, they imagine, is a rugged, no-nonsense place where the men all look a bit like Crocodile Dundee (or, at least, Steve Irwin), and where their idea of a chat-up line to the sheilas on Bondi beach is "Hey Sheila. Do you want a \*\*\*\*?" (to which they'll add, if Sheila is reluctant: "Well would you mind just lying there while I have one?")

But it's just not true. Australia handed in its testicles to the progressives long ago.

Its state broadcaster ABC is so hysterically left-wing it makes the BBC look like Fox News, while its resident eco-fascists are so rampant they make our RSPCA look as red-meat as the Heythrop hunt in full cry.

As for its Press Council and their ruling about what I said about wind farms (The Australian, May 3) I stand by every word of the piece - especially the bit about pedophiles. I would concede that the analogy may be somewhat offensive to the pedophile community. Nevertheless, like the anonymous sheep farmer I quoted, I feel that the "level of offensiveness" is entirely justified. There are two things that especially interest me about the Australian Press Council's ruling. First, I'm struck by the contrast with a recent ruling by its British counterpart on a very similar issue - another article by me, again on wind farms. Some foaming busybody decided to take issue with some of the inconvenient truths I'd written about the wind scam.

The complainant considered that the newspaper's blog on wind farms had breached Clause 1 (Accuracy) of the Editors' Code of Practice.

In particular, the complainant objected to a passage that stated "it (the wind farm menace) wipes between 25 per cent and 50 per cent off property value; it causes insomnia, depression, palpitations, anxiety, sickness of all kinds; it drives up energy prices; it kills birdlife and bats; it destroys jobs (creating only fake, taxpayer-subsidised ones); it does nothing whatsoever for the environment".

The complainant said the article was misleading because it failed to clearly distinguish conjecture from

fact and he noted it appeared under the tab "news" on the newspaper's website, rather than the "comments" section.

Not only did the Press Complaints Commission rightly decide there was no breach of the code on any of the specific points but, perhaps more importantly, it took a firm, principled stand on the right of journalists to use strong, colourful language in the context of articles where it is quite evident to anyone with half a brain that they are the opinion of the author rather than some Economist-style, dry-as-dust, faux-balanced, ex cathedra pronouncement.

The commission made clear from the outset that newspapers are entitled - under the terms of Clause 1 (iii) and the general principle of freedom of expression - to take a contentious editorial position on a particular issue, provided that readers are not misled.

In the commission's view, the style and tone of the article would make clear to readers that the piece was not an impartial overview on wind farms.

In other words, despite the best efforts of Lord Justice Leveson, free speech remains alive and reasonably well in Britain.

Whereas in Australia, I'm afraid, it is dead as a dodo. We've seen it in the ludicrous case where Australia's most popular broadcaster Alan Jones was sent to the Death Camp of Tolerance for getting wrong some pettifogging detail about climate change.

We saw it in the ruling against Andrew Bolt when he made some disobliging, remarks about the - ahem - traditional owners. We saw it in Raymond "Finko the Pinko" Finkelstein's ruling on the rights of the press to say disobliging things about government policy.

Which brings me to the second interesting point of comparison. By spooky coincidence, the Australian Press Council made its pedophile ruling in the same week that the Australian climate loon Robyn Williams was censured - and immediately exonerated - for likening climate sceptics to pedophiles.

"What if I told you that pedophilia is good for children, or that smoking crack is a normal part and a healthy

one of teenage life, to be encouraged?" Williams said at the top of the show, which was dedicated to discussing attitudes on climate change.

"You'd rightly find it outrageous. But there have been similar statements coming out of inexperienced mouths again and again in recent times, distorting the science."

This, not unreasonably, prompted a complaint from the ABC's former chairman Maurice Newman, who argued that the broadcaster had been "captured" by a "small group of people" prone to imbalance and "climate change groupthink".

Amazingly though, after considering Newman's complaint for at least as long as it took to screw it up into a ball and toss it into one of the gold-plated, diamond-encrusted bins you can afford when you're a lavishly overindulged

state-funded broadcaster, the ABC found it had done absolutely nothing wrong.

An ABC spokeswoman said the complaint was dismissed because the editorial context of the segment was reasonable, meaning "harm and offence" was justified.

So maybe I got it slightly wrong when I said freedom of speech is dead in Australia. It is in fact alive: so long as you conform to the green-left-liberal orthodoxy's notion of what constitutes the truth. Otherwise, forget it.

Anyway, I did enjoy writing this, which I dedicate to all those wonderful Aussies who haven't succumbed to all that right-on, eco-fascist drivel.

And if you haven't yet got a present for the person you love - or for the greentard down the road that you really want to annoy - might I heartily recommend an excellent book by me called **Killing The Earth To Save It: How The Environmentalists Are Ruining The Planet, Destroying The Economy And Stealing Your Jobs** - Connor Court. Unlike the stuff on the subject you hear from toilet outfits like the ABC it's all true.

*James Delingpole writes a blog for Britain's Daily Telegraph.*

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/nationalaffairs/opinion/where-free-speech-is-dead-as-the-dodo/story-e6frgd0x-1226541451689>



## Wittmund



### Falscher KZ-Häftling räumt Fehler ein

Von Karsten Krogmann



**Im Mittelpunkt: Otto Uthgenannt (mit Kippa auf dem Kopf) bekommt nach seinem bewegenden Vortrag am 7. November 2012 im Wildeshauser Rathaus Blumen von Ingeborg Jacoby vom dortigen Präventionsrat. Bild: Archiv**

Otto Uthgenannt gibt zu: Erlebnisse in Buchenwald treffen „so nicht ganz zu“. Der 77-jährige Wittmunder betont nach den

Berichten in dieser Zeitung seine „gute Fantasie“. Die Jüdische Gemeinde Oldenburg zeigt sich „zutiefst schockiert“.

Wittmund - Der angebliche KZ-Häftling Otto Uthgenannt hat sich erstmals öffentlich zu den Berichten geäußert, die seine

Leidensgeschichte als frei erfunden belegen. Dem in seiner Wahlheimat Wittmund erscheinenden „Anzeiger für Harlingerland“ sagte er auf Nachfrage: „Dann entschuldige ich mich. Ich bin 77 Jahre alt, ich habe es ja nur gut gemeint.“

Auf seine Erlebnisse im Konzentrationslager Buchenwald angesprochen, räumte er ein: „Die treffen nicht ganz so zu.“ Er habe wohl eine „gute Fantasie“, sei ein „guter Schwindler“, sagte er laut der Zeitung. Auf die konkreten Vorwürfe wollte er nicht eingehen: „Ich bin zu alt dafür, das kostet zu viel Kraft.“

**Recherchen haben ergeben, dass die Familie evangelisch war und nie in KZ deportiert wurde**

Uthgenannt hatte über Jahre in Schulen und bei Gedenkveranstaltungen über seine fünfjährige Haftzeit als jüdisches Kind im KZ Buchenwald berichtet. Er habe durch den Holocaust 72 Verwandte verloren, darunter Vater, Mutter und Schwester, behauptete er. Recherchen haben hingegen ergeben, dass die Familie Uthgenannt nicht jüdisch, sondern evangelisch war und nie ins KZ deportiert wurde. Vater, Mutter, Schwester und Sohn überlebten den Krieg in Göttingen.

Uthgenannt betonte, dass er sich den Schulen nie aufgedrängt habe: „Die haben mich doch immer gefragt.“ Er war unter anderem auch in Jade und Wildeshausen aufgetreten und hatte dort Schüler und Lehrer mit seinen

Schilderungen berührt. Geld habe er für seine Schulbesuche nicht bekommen haben, erklärte er bereits am Freitag, als er von dieser Zeitung mit den Recherche-Ergebnissen konfrontiert wurde.

„Zutiefst schockiert“ über die Enthüllungen zeigt sich Jehuda Wätermann vom Vorstand der Jüdischen Gemeinde zu Oldenburg. Uthgenannt ist seit 2002 Mitglied der Gemeinde. „Es gab für uns damals keinen Grund, die von ihm vorgelegten Unterlagen anzuzweifeln“, erklärte Wätermann auf Nachfrage. Er habe jetzt eine genaue Prüfung in die Wege geleitet.

<http://www.oz-online.de/-news/artikel/106441/Falscher-KZ-Haeftling-raeumt-Fehler-ein>

### **What on earth is this article from North-West Germany about?**

Who is 77-year-old Otto Uthgenannt? He's been parading as a Jewish German because he meant to do good! But he's just another Holocaust Liar confessing to telling lies to school children. His defence? He never forced himself into schools with his lies but schools always approached him and asked him to tell his story about losing 72 relatives and surviving Buchenwald – and so the lying racket continues while Revisionists are imprisoned for exposing such LIES. Telling lies about what allegedly happened during World War Two in national Socialist Germany is rewarded...and the German government, aided by a willing judiciary, continues to promote a legally protected fiction! Now Robert Faurisson reports on a French professional Holocaust-Shoah liar:

### **Robert FAURISSON reports**

#### **Serge Klarsfeld: at Auschwitz 1,000 Jews deported from France were gassed ... in bed! 22 December 2012**

With two years' delay I now learn of news about Auschwitz which, as of late 2010, should have made the headlines of the world press and forced historians of "the Holocaust" or the "Shoah" to revise their vulgate of the extermination of the Jews. Strangely, all the media kept quiet about it. Had they for once, this time, felt that it was a case of wild imaginings taken just too far?

Serge Klarsfeld vouches for it: in September 1942, at Auschwitz, 1,000 Jews deported from France by "Vichy" were gassed ... **in their beds!** I do not recall ever having noted such information in the two fat volumes of his **Vichy-Auschwitz** (Paris, Fayard, 544 pages in 1983 and 415 pages in 1985). For me this is a novelty, discovered in a little book that a particularly astute revisionist lady has just given me, pointing out the passage that intrigued her. Entitled **Pie XII et la Shoah / Le choix du silence?**, the 86-page booklet was

composed by Ph. Chenaux, S. Klarsfeld, G. Krupp and M. Viot under the direction of Mgr Dominique Le Tourneau (Paris, Pierre Téqui editor, 2011). It is in fact a compendium of those authors' papers for a brief seminar on "Pius XII and the Jews. His influence on Vatican II", held in Paris in November 2010.

Bringing up a deportation of Romanian Jews in 1942, S. Klarsfeld, for his part, writes:

**"Vichy gives its assent. During the night, the prefecture of police [of Paris] takes out the files on the Jews concerned: on the morning of September 24, 1,500 Romanian Jews are arrested; the next day 1,000 are deported and, after a thirty-six-hour journey to Auschwitz, gassed in their beds"** (p. 45-46).

Two lines afterwards he is conferring honours on Father Patrick Desbois, a holy prankster if ever there was one <http://robertfaurisson.blogspot.it/2>

[007/11/father-patrick-desbois-is-one-hell-of.html](http://007/11/father-patrick-desbois-is-one-hell-of.html).

No source is provided to support the veracity of this account of a miracle that would have defied all the laws of physics and chemistry. No document is mentioned. No reference. No "testimony".

At Auschwitz, according to the legend, Jews were gassed with Zyklon B, a powerful pesticide that was, in substance, hydrogen-cyanide gas, which adheres strongly to and penetrates all surfaces, is terribly difficult to evacuate from a room or remove from bedding or other objects, or indeed anything at all, and is also explosive and liable at any moment to gas the team of gassers using it, forbidding them any physical exertion upon the opening of the premises where a gassing has occurred – and this despite the compulsory wearing of a mask with the very most powerful filter, the "J" filter.

Where the devil, at Auschwitz, would this crime have been

committed? Even Danuta Czech, in her famous "Auschwitz Chronicle", refrained from mentioning this form of "gassing in bed", although she hardly lacked audacity, being the one who declared "gassed" certain convoys which were later found, in reality, to have been sent on to other camps after a quarantine at Auschwitz.

With this I hear Klarsfeld telling us yet another story in gas-chamberese. And at the very worst time for his cause, in grave distress since at least 1995 with the outright surrender of his protégé, the uproarious Jean-Claude Pressac – <http://robertfaurisson.blogspot.it/2005/06/ten-years-ago-jean-claude-pressacs.html>. These days his

historian friends only ever evoke the gassings of Jews half-heartedly, by mere automatism and, all told, just in order to respect the good manners of a certain tradition. At 77, shouldn't he follow their example, even if only for fear of soon ending up like his old friend Jacques Chirac? Could it be that Serge Klarsfeld's own mental collapse began in 2010, with this outlandish invention of a thousand gassings in bed?

**NB: Until the 1988 Ernst Zündel Toronto trial there were at Auschwitz-Birkenau 20 plaques in 20 languages carrying this message, then removed and replaced with another fiction:**



## Researcher Günter Deckert sentenced to German prison

**Günter Deckert will serve five months in a German prison for translating a history essay**

**By Michael Hoffman [www.revisionisthistory.org](http://www.revisionisthistory.org), 3 December 2012**

In the World War II revisionist history movement in Germany, Günter Deckert is among the most hard-working and humble of its martyrs.

I say "martyr" because any resident of Germany who persists in actively and publicly doubting the existence of execution gas chambers in Auschwitz-Birkenau -- the holy relic of the West's most sacred religion (Holocaustianity) -- will be fined and likely imprisoned. Günter Deckert has been to prison before in Germany for this reason (five years' imprisonment, 1995 to 2000), and he is about to be imprisoned again.

His "crime"? Translating from Italian into German historian Carlo Mattogno's treatise, "Auschwitz: The First Gassing" (überarbeiten, deutsche Endbearbeitung/ -fassung).

The following was received from Mr. Deckert:

Friends, Comrades and Fighters for the Truth in World War II History, The time has come! I must soon enter prison to serve my 5-month sentence although my constitutional appeal has not yet been decided. I am to report to the prison on

January 2nd, 2013. The release date will be June 2nd... .."What does not kill me, does make me stronger!" With this in mind, my best comradely greetings and loyalty to our kin and people. I wish everyone a very good year of 2013 full of success and the best health possible.

Günter Deckert

**E-mail:** [guenter.deckert@gmx.de](mailto:guenter.deckert@gmx.de)



**Günter Deckert**

With those words Mr. Deckert prepares to surrender five months of his life to the German state that is called "democratic" by the U.S. government, the U.N. and the European Union, and which scruples to lecture Muslim nations on the pressing need to allow more freedom to their citizens.

Fortunately, Muslims are increasingly aware of this hypocrisy and, unfortunately, it has only stiffened their resolve to enforce the repression of freedom of speech and press in their own nations. The Chinese Communists must also surely be aware of the German repression of revisionist thought criminals. "Example," observed Samuel Johnson, "is always more efficacious than precept." In other words, practice what you preach. But in addition to Germany, the governments of Canada, Australia and many European nations such as Austria, France and Switzerland, do not, and the world is made darker as a result.

Günter Deckert, an honest and decent man, is again being tossed into a dungeon with little or no protest or media publicity. The machinery of the German inquisition operates in near total silence and obscurity. Historians, researchers and scientists in Germany are imprisoned for blaspheming the Holy People's relics and it is all done with hardly any notice taken. Consequently, we know that this inquisition will grind on, and because it is in the German



nature not to complain, the real, excruciating cost to Mr. Deckert and his family, their suffering and privation, will not be advertised on a poster soul.

What is called western civilization is actually western syphilization, and sometimes this writer finds himself ardently desiring that the Muslim

invaders would arrive all that much sooner to scourge the golem of Europe, Canada and Australia, as God has so often in the past used hostile aliens to punish His people for their betrayal and idolatry.

Make no mistake, the adoration of the gas chamber idol is no less an abomination in the eyes of the Most

High; particularly in light of the fact that the organized denial of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ has never been more virulent — a denial which is perfectly legal in every nation of the dishonorable western world.



Günter Deckert and Lady Michele Renouf welcome home Sylvia Stolz after having served her three-and-a-half years prison sentence.

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## It's OK to link climate denial to pedophilia, ABC tells ex-chairman Maurice Newman

By: Rick Morton, [The Australian](#), December 18, 2012 12:00AM

**A COMPLAINT by former ABC chairman Maurice Newman over a radio program that linked scepticism about human-induced climate change to advocacy of pedophilia has been dismissed by the national broadcaster.**

Mr Newman, who retired from the ABC's top job in March when his five-year term ended, said the broadcaster had been "captured" by a "small but powerful" group of

people when it came to climate change groupthink - a claim rebuffed by the broadcaster.

He said comments by the network's science reporter Robyn Williams in a November 24 broadcast of The Science Show were indicative of a broader failure of the "public interest" test at the taxpayer-funded ABC.

"What if I told you that pedophilia is good for children, or that smoking crack is a normal part and a healthy

one of teenage life, to be encouraged?" Williams said at the top of the show, which was dedicated to discussing attitudes on climate change.

"You'd rightly find it outrageous. But there have been similar statements coming out of inexpert mouths again and again in recent times, distorting the science."

In his written complaint to ABC managing director Mark Scott, Mr Newman raised the issue of



personally "offensive and defamatory" material and content that compared climate sceptics to pedophiles "more generally".

The radio segment had also referred to an article that Mr Newman had written in The Australian last month comparing climate change believers to the religious. Mr Williams referred to it as "drivel" and his guest, psychology professor Stephen Lewandosky, said that those who denied climate change were "driven by ideology rather than evidence".

Mr Newman objected to the imputation that he was a flat-earther.

"Speaking up publicly is not the sort of thing you do lightly," he told The Australian yesterday.

"I still have a deep affection for the ABC but at some point someone has got to make a stand. The ABC is not being frank and open about the way global warming is portrayed on its various platforms, although the sense of imbalance is becoming more overt, I feel."

Mr Newman said he was the first person to admit he was not a scientist and described himself as a human-induced climate change "agnostic". "I considered the report to be defamatory because it went on to discuss me personally and an opinion piece I'd written comparing some in the climate change camp to religious believers," he said. "In lumping me in with despicable flat-earthers, they also, through their

introduction, likened people like us to pedophiles and drug-pushers."

An ABC spokeswoman said the complaint was dismissed because the editorial context of the segment was reasonable, meaning "harm and offence" was justified.

"ABC Audience and Consumer Affairs have carefully considered the complaint, reviewed the program and assessed it against the ABC's editorial standards for harm and offence which state in part: 7.1 Content that is likely to cause harm or offence must be justified by the editorial context," the spokeswoman said.

"ABC Audience and Consumer Affairs have also sought and considered a response from ABC Radio. Audience and Consumer Affairs have concluded that there has been no breach of the ABC's editorial standards for harm and offence." The former chairman said he had not made the complaint to the ABC to air a personal grievance; rather he wished to highlight that the national broadcaster had a duty to all taxpayers to provide more considered and balanced reports.

"In this particular segment, I don't think the issue received fair treatment," Mr Newman said. "It certainly wasn't open-minded and I believe it misrepresented the perspective of people who have considered doubt."

ABC policies also make note, on scientific and other matters, that standards must strike a "balance

that follows the weight of the evidence".

"Who does the weighing?" Mr Newman said. "Who re-weights and when? Or, is it set and forget?"

The ABC spokeswoman said the network did broadcast and publish views from dissenting scientists.

"Unlike the BBC, the ABC acknowledges there are climate scientists who question the core thinking about climate science," she said.

"The ABC gives them and their views air time."

In its direct response to Mr Newman, the ABC maintained it did "not equate climate change sceptics to pedophiles".



**Former ABC chairman Maurice Newman says the national broadcaster suffers from 'groupthink' when it comes to climate change. Picture: Nikki Short Source: The Australian**  
<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/media/broadcast/its-ok-to-link-climate-denial-to-pedophilia-abc-tells-ex-chairman-maurice-newman/story-fna045qd-1226538690358>



# Mayan Calendar expires, bringing little sign of an apocalypse

News Limited Network, December 21, 2012 6:50AM

Mayan Long Count Calendar ends. We do not.

[But, wait - it's supposed to happen at 11.11pm](#)

Follow the hyperlinks in the story for further details

[See our complete coverage of the apocalypse here](#)



D'oh. We got the date wrong... A member of a folk group performs wearing a Maya mask in Tikal archaeological site in Peten, 560 km north of Guatemala city. Picture: Hector RETAMAL Source: AFP

**WELCOME to the 14th b'ak'tun. So far, expectations of our demise appear to have been greatly exaggerated.**

The clock has stopped ticking. The 13th b'ak'tun has ended. The Mayan calendar has expired. We're still here. So is New Zealand - and they're two hours ahead of us.

There are no reports of Planet Nibiru looming suddenly above our atmosphere. No 100ft tall apparitions of Mayan gods have started eating populations here or anywhere else so far covered by the 14th b'ak'tun date-line.

The spiritual ascendancy, however, may be well under way - [with hundreds of hippies gathered at Uluru \(Ayres Rock\)](#) to do what hippies do.

And a convention of spiritualists in Mexico has [declared the spiritual ascendancy](#) is underway, with spirals of light now entering your head from a galactic bridge. But, there is still a chance it may all end.

**Cold War bunker hosts doomsday party**

Moscow residents snap up \$1000 tickets for a doomsday party to be held in cold-war era bunker 56m

underground on December 21. Source ITV

[news.com.au](#) 21 December 2012

Replay: [Cold War bunker hosts doomsday party](#)

Share this video

**Cold War bunker hosts doomsday party**

Moscow residents snap up \$1000 tickets for a doomsday party to be held in cold-war era bunker 56m underground on December 21. Source ITV

21 December 2012 [news.com.au](#)

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**News/World**

[Star Child found?](#)



An archaeological dig in Mexico has found alien like skulls

20 December 2012 0:56 [news.com.au](#)

[Watch video](#)

**News/World**

[Ordinary day for NASA](#)



Senior NASA scientist David Morrison is working to inform the public December 21 2012 will be no different from any other day on Earth.

19 December 2012 3:21 [news.com.au](#)

[Watch video](#)

**News/World**

[Visitors flock to Turkish town to escape doomsday](#)



Tourists begin to arrive in Sirince, the Western Turkish town believed to be one of the few places on earth that will be saved from the end...

21 December 2012 1:02 NDM CP - Reuters

[Watch video](#)



## News/World

### [Mayan calendar preps underway](#)



Preparations are underway in Guatemala for the start of the new Mayan calendar on December 21. Rough Cut (no reporter narration). 20 December 2012 0:31 NDM CP - Reuters

[Watch video](#)

## News/World

### [Mayan mania: end of times or new era?](#)



Preparations are underway in Mexico and Guatemala to celebrate the start of a new Mayan calendar on December 21. Travis Brecher reports.

18 December 2012 1:44 NDM CP - Reuters

[Watch video](#)

## News

### [Mass matrimony instead of Mayan mayhem](#)



Thousands of couples worldwide tied the knot on the 12/12/12.

13 December 2012 1:36 NDM CP - Sky News

[Watch video](#)

## News/World

### [The gift to end all gifts: an apocalypse kit](#)



The Siberian city of Tomsk is selling special kits in case the Dec. 21 apocalypse - which some claim was forecast by the ending of the Maya...

30 November 2012 1:14 NDM CP - Reuters

[Watch video](#)

## News

### [Cold War bunker hosts doomsday party](#)



Moscow residents snap up \$1000 tickets for a doomsday party to be held in cold-war era bunker 56m underground on December 21. Source ITV

21 December 2012 0:41 news.com.au

[Watch video](#)

Some are hanging out for midnight Mexico time (5pm AEST) and the start of the new b'ak'tun over the ruins of the Mayan civilisation.

Others insist the "event" will happen [at exactly 11.11pm - wherever you may live](#) (though why it would happen 11 hours and 11 minutes after the calendar has expired is not explained).

More are just having a good time: One prankster, tweeting [under the guise of Prince Charles](#), has asked "Are you still there, Australia?"

Amid the hype is a real - but remote - cause for fear. Scientists have [announced the discovery of an ancient unstable sea-mount](#) off the coast of Queensland. If it slips, it could cause a huge tsunami.

Whatever the case, preparations around the world have been extensive. [But preparations for the apocalypse seem often to be indiscernible from a good party.](#)

Here's a summary of the apocalypse so far:

[More than 30 schools in the US state of Michigan will be closing early](#) - but this is more to do with fears of massacres than apocalyptic impacts.

More than a thousand shamans, seers and stargazers have gathered in the Mexican city of Merida, near the ancient ruins of Chichen Itza. [But the apocalypse-poopers believe they're celebrating the start of a new spiritual age.](#)

Enthusiasts have gathered at the Mayan pyramid at Uxmal - the only pyramid with rounded edges - to soften the impact.

Parties are underway in bunkers throughout the world, with one in Russia charging a \$1500 door fee. The French village of Bugarach in the Pyrenees is sleeping quietly -

and doing its best to ignore the hundreds of journalists swarming over its backyard mountain. The anticipated New-Ager tourism boom never happened and the UFO is yet to arrive.

Twitter is facing melt-down with swarms of doomsday jokes, pranks and pictures.

Stonehenge is combining its annual Winter Solstice party with an End of the World party.

Serbian are gathering at their own holy mountain, a pyramid shaped mound repeatedly proven not to be a man-made construction concealing a sorcerer.

Turkey's end of the world haven is turning into a bust: Only journalists and security guards have turned up at the "exempt" town of Sirince.

Italy's "exempt" town of Cisternino seems to be doing better: hundreds of hotel rooms have been booked.

China's determined to make sure the world doesn't end. It has arrested 500 belonging to a Christian cult using doomsday messages to recruit.

**Find out what all the fuss is about: Check out our interactive Mayan Apocalypse graphic below.**

The apocalypse mystery stems from a carved stone found in Tortuguero, a Mayan site in Mexico. The relief contains a cryptic allusion to something really big happening today.

However, most experts interpret the calendar to mean December 21, 2012 is simply the end a 5200-year era for the Maya and the start of another.

This reading says that Friday marks the end of 13 cycles with which they measured time - each lasting roughly 400 years.

If that's right, everybody can relax and enjoy the ceremonies as folklore.

Governments and tourism officials have thus scrambled to cash in on the doomsday frenzy and lure visitors to Mayan sites from Mexico to Belize, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala.

But a leader of an association of Mayan spiritual leaders, Sebastian Mejia, said the fuss cheapening it all by treating like a circus show.

"For us it is not a show and it is not about tourism. It is something spiritual and personal," Mejia said.



Journalists park their vehicles in a village in western Turkey. Believers in the Mayan calendar's doomsday were expected to flock to Sirince, a small village in Turkey's Izmir province, which some believe is the only safe haven from the impending apocalypse because the Virgin Mary is said to have risen to heaven from there.



Guatemalan chaman Christian Nottbohn holds a Mayan ceremony in Rastrajon, once a settlement of warriors destined to protect the ancient city of Copan, some 400 kms northwest of Tegucigalpa. PICTURE: Orlando SIERRA

## 0 : 0 : 30 : 36

Doom is at hand. On this, Mayan apocalypse believers agree. From there, things get a bit messy. Exotic blends of astrology, interpretations of the legends of many other cultures and even enlightened insights by modern day prophets have produced a variety of dramatic and calamitous events to be pinned on the expiry of the Mayan Long Count calendar.



Guatemalan Maya natives kneel in front of a temple at Tikal archaeological site in Peten, 560 km north of Guatemala city. PICTURE: Hector RETAMAL



<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/news/national/mayan-calendar-expires-bringing-little-sign-of-an-apocalypse/story-fndo1sx1-1226541573343>





**On 10 January 2013 'Elvis Presley' and fans are ready to board the Pressley Express to Parkes, NSW, for the annual Presley Festival.**

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## **Professor [James Petras](#): Elite Intrigues: It's Not About Sex, Stupid!**

### **Introduction**

The headline stories claim that CIA Director General David Petraeus resigned as head of the CIA because of an adulterous relation with his young biographer and that General John Allen, Supreme Commander of US troops in Afghanistan, was under investigation and his promotion to top commander of US troops in Europe was on hold, because, we are told, of his 'inappropriate' comments in the exchange of e-mails with a civilian female friend. We are told that a 'hard-charging' local FBI agent, Frederick Humphries, Jr., had uncovered amorous e-mails sent by General Petraeus to his girlfriend-biographer in the course of investigating a complaint of 'cyber-stalking'. Out of concern that the General's 'adulterous behavior' posed a risk to US national security, Florida-based FBI Agent Humphries handed the evidence over to one of Washington, DC's most powerful Republican, Congressman Eric Cantor, who in turn passed them on

to the Director of the FBI... leading to Petraeus resignation.

In other words, we are asked to believe that a single, low-ranking, zealous FBI agent has toppled the careers of two top US Generals: one in charge of the principle global intelligence agency, the CIA, and the other in command of the US and allied combat forces in the principle theater of military engagement – on the basis of infidelity and flirtatious banter! Nothing could be more far-fetched simply on prima facie evidence.

In the sphere of tight hierarchical organizations, like the military or the CIA, where the activity and behavior of subordinate functionaries is centrally directed and any investigation is subject to authorization by senior officials – most especially regarding prying into the private correspondences of the heads of the CIA and of strategic military operations, the idea that a lone agent might operate free-lance is preposterous. A 'cowboy' agent could not simply initiate investigation into such 'sensitive' targets as the head of

the CIA and a General in an active combat zone without the highest level authorization or a network of political operatives with a much bigger agenda. This has much deeper political implications than uncovering a banal sexual affair between two consenting security-cleared adults despite the agent's claim that fornication constitutes a threat to the United States.

Clearly we are in deep waters here: This involves political intrigue at the highest level and has profound national security implications, involving the directorship of the CIA and clandestine operations, intelligence reports, multi-billion dollar expenditures and US efforts to stabilize client regimes and destabilize target regimes. CIA intelligence reports identifying allies and enemies are critical to shaping global US foreign policy. Any shift at the top of the US empire's operational command can and does have strategic importance.

The 'outing' of General Allen, the military commander in charge of Afghanistan, the US main zone of military operations occurs at a

crucial time, with the scheduled forced withdrawal of US combat troops and when the Afghan 'sepoys', the soldiers and officers of the puppet Karzai regime, are showing major signs of disaffection, is clearly a political move of the highest order.

What are the political issues behind the beheading of these two generals? Who benefits and who loses?

At the global level, both Generals have been unflinching supporters of the US Empire, most especially the military-driven components of empire building. Both continue to carry out and support the serial wars launched by Presidents Bush and Obama against Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as, the numerous proxy wars against Libya, Syria, Yemen, Somalia, etc. But both Generals were known to have publicly taken positions unpopular with certain key factions of the US power elite.

CIA Director, General Petraeus has been a major supporter of the proxy wars in Libya and Syria. In those efforts he has promoted a policy of collaboration with rightwing Islamist regimes and Islamist opposition movements, including training and arming Islamist fundamentalists in order to topple targeted, mostly secular, regimes in the Middle East. In pursuit of this policy – Petraeus has had the backing of nearly the entire US political spectrum.

However, Petraeus was well aware that this 'grand alliance' between the US and the rightwing Islamist regimes and movements to secure imperial hegemony, would require re-calibrating US relations with Israel. Petraeus viewed Netanyahu's proposed war with Iran, his bloody land grabs in the Occupied Territories of Palestine and the bombing, dispossession and assassination of scores of Palestinians each month, were a liability as Washington sought support from the Islamist regimes in Egypt, Tunisia, Turkey, Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Gulf

States, Iraq and Yemen. Petraeus implied this in public statements and behind closed doors he advocated the withdrawal of US support for Israel's violent settler expansion into Palestine, even urging the Obama regime to pressure Netanyahu to reach some settlement with the pliable US client Abbas leadership. Above all, Petraeus backed the violent jihadists in Libya and Syria while opposing an Israel-initiated war against Iran, which he implied, would polarize the entire Moslem world against the Washington-Tel Aviv alliance and 'provoke the US-proxy supplied Islamist fundamentalists to turn their arms against their CIA patrons. The imperial policy, according to General Petraeus world view, was in conflict with Israel's strategy of fomenting hostility among Islamist regimes and movements against the US and, especially, the Jewish state's promotion of regional conflicts in order to mask and intensify its ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians. Central to Israeli strategy and what posed the most immediate threat to the implementation of a Petraeus' doctrine was the influence of the Zionist power configuration (ZPC) in and out of the US government.

As soon as General Petraeus' report naming Israel as a 'strategic liability' became known, the ZPC sprang into action and forced Petraeus to retract his statements – at least publicly. But once, he became head of the CIA, Petraeus continued the policy of working with rightwing Islamist regimes and arming and providing intelligence to jihadi fundamentalists in order to topple independent secular regimes, first in Libya, then on to Syria. This policy was placed under the spotlight in Benghazi with the killing of the US ambassador to Libya and several CIA/Special Forces operatives by CIA-backed terrorists leading to a domestic political crisis, as key Republican Congress people sought to exploit the Obama administration's diplomatic failure.

They especially targeted the US Ambassador to the UN, Susan Rice, whose maladroit efforts to obscure the real source of the attacks in Benghazi, have undermined her nomination to replace Hilary Clinton as Secretary of State.

General Petraeus, faced with mounting pressure from all sides: from the ZPC over his criticism of Israel and overtures to Islamist regimes, from the Republicans over the Benghazi debacle and from the FBI, over the personal investigation into his girlfriend and hyped up media smear, gave in. He 'fessed up' to a 'sexual affair', saluted and resigned. In so doing, he 'sacrificed' himself in order to 'save the CIA' and his strategy of long-term alliance-building with 'moderate' Islamist regimes while forming short-term tactical alliances with the jihadists to overthrow secular Arab regimes.

The key political operative behind the high-level FBI operation against Petraeus has been House Majority leader Eric Cantor, who cynically claims that the General's romantic epistles represent a national security threat. We are told that Congressman Cantor gravely passed the e-mails and reports he had received from the 'Lone Ranger' FBI agent Humphries to FBI Director Mueller ordering Mueller to act on the investigation or else face his own Congressional inquiry.

Washington-based Representative Cantor is a zealous lifetime Israel-firster and has been hostile to the Petraeus report and the General's assessment of the Middle East. Florida-based, Agent Humphries was not just any old conscientious gum-shoe: He was a notorious Islamaphobe engaged in finding terrorists under every bed. His claim to fame (or infamy) was that he had arrested two Muslims, one of whom, he claimed, was preparing to bomb the Los Angeles airport while the other allegedly planned a separate bombing. In a judicial twist, unusual in this era of FBI sting operations, both men were acquitted of the plots for lack of

evidence, although one was convicted for publishing an account of how to detonate a bomb with a child's toy! Agent Humphries was transferred from Washington State to Tampa, Florida – home of the US military's Central Command (CENTCOM).

Despite their clear differences in station and location, there are ideological affinities between House Majority Whip Cantor and Agent Humphries – and possibly a common dislike of General Petraeus. Concerns over his Islamophobic and ideological zealotry may explain why the FBI quickly yanked Agent Humphries out from his mission of 'obsessive' prying into CIA Director Petraeus and General Allen's e-mails. Undeterred by orders from his superiors in the FBI, Agent Humphries went directly to fellow zealot Congressman Cantor.

Who would have benefited from Petraeus ouster? One of the top three candidates to replace him as head of the CIA is Jane Harmon, former California Congresswoman and Zionist uber-zealot. In another twist of justice, in 2005 the Congresswoman had been captured on tape by the National Security Agency telling Israeli Embassy personnel that she would use her influence to aid two AIPAC officials who had confessed to handing classified US documents to the Israeli Mossad, if the AIPAC could round up enough Congressional votes to make her Chairwoman of the US House Committee on Intelligence, an act bordering on treason, for which she was never held to account. If she were to take his position, the ousting of CIA Director Petraeus could represent to the greatest 'constitutional coup' in US history: the appointment of a foreign agent to control the world's biggest, deadliest and richest spy agency. Who would benefit from the fall of Petraeus? – first and foremost – the State of Israel.

The innuendos, smears and leaked investigation into the private e-mails of General Allen revolve

around his raising questions over the US policy of prolonged military presence in Afghanistan. From his own practical experience General Allen has recognized that the puppet Afghan army is unreliable: hundreds of US and other NATO troops have been killed or wounded by their Afghan counterparts, from lowest foot soldiers to the highest Afghan security officials, 'native' troops and officers that the US had supposedly trained for a much ballyhooed 'transfer of command' in 2014. General Allen's change of heart over the Afghan occupation was in response to the growing influence of the Taliban and other Islamist resistance supporters who had infiltrated the Afghan armed forces and now had near total control of the countryside and urban districts right up to the US and NATO bases. Allen did not believe that a 'residual force' of US military trainers could survive, once the bulk of US troops pulled out. In a word, he favored, after over a decade of a losing war, a policy of cutting the US' losses, declaring 'victory' and leaving to regroup on more favorable terrain.

Civilian militarists and neo-conservatives in the Executive and Congress refuse to acknowledge their shameful defeat with a full US retreat and a likely surrender to a Taliban regime. On the other hand, they cannot openly reject the painfully realistic assessment of General Allen, and they certainly cannot dismiss the experience of the supreme commander of US ground forces in Afghanistan.

When, in this charged political context, the rabidly Islamophobic FBI agent Humphries 'stumbled upon' the affectionate personal correspondences between General Allen and 'socialite' femme fatale Jill Kelly, the Neocons and civilian militarists whipped up a smear campaign through the yellow journalists at the Washington Post, New York Times and Wall Street Journal implying another 'sex' scandal – this time involving General Allen. The neo-con-

militarist-mass media clamor forced the spineless President Obama and the military high command to announce an investigation of General Allen and postpone Congressional hearings on his appointment to head the US forces in Europe. While the General quietly retains his supreme command of US forces in Afghanistan, he has become a defeated and disgraced officer and his expertise and professional views regarding the future of US operations in Afghanistan will no longer be taken seriously.

### **Key Unanswered Questions Surrounding Elite Intrigues and Military Purges**

Given that the public version of a lone-wolf, low ranking, zealously Islamophobic and incompetent FBI agent who just happened to 'discover' a sex scandal leading to the discrediting or resignation of two of the US highest military and intelligence officials is absurd to any thinking American, several key political questions with profound implications for the US political system need to be addressed. These include:

What political officials, if any, authorized the FBI, a domestic security agency to investigate and force the resignation of the Director of the CIA?

Have the current police state structures, with their procedures for widespread and arbitrary spying led to our spy agencies spying on each other in order to purge each other's top personnel? Is this like the sow devouring her own offspring?

What were the real priorities of the political power-brokers who protected the insubordinate FBI agent Humphries after he defied top FBI officials' orders to stop meddling in the investigation of the CIA Director?

What were FBI Agent Humphries ties, if any, to the neo-con, Zionist or Islamophobic politicians and other intelligence operatives, including the Israeli Mossad?

Despite Obama's effusive praise of his brilliant 'warrior-scholar' General

Petraeus in the past, why did he immediately 'accept' (aka 'force') the CIA Director's resignation after the revelation of something as banal in civilian life as adultery? What are the deeper political issues that led to the pre-emptive purge?

Why are critical political issues and policy disputes resolved under the guise of blackmail, smears and character assassination, rather than through open debates and discussions, especially on matters pertaining to the nation's choice of strategic and tactical 'allies' and the conduct of overseas wars?

Has the purge and public humiliation of top US military officers become an acceptable form of "punishment by example", a signal from civilian militarists that when it comes to dealing with politics toward the Middle East, the role of the military is not to question but to follow their (and Israel's) directives? How could a proven collaborator with the Israeli-Mossad and Zionist zealot like Jane Harmon emerge as a 'leading candidate' to replace General Petraeus, as Director of the CIA, within days of his resignation? What are the political links, past and present between Congressman Eric Cantor, (the fanatical leader of the pro-Israel power bloc in the US Congress, who handed Agent Humphries' unauthorized files on Petraeus over to the FBI Director Mueller) and Zionist power broker Jane Harmon, a prominent candidate to replace Petraeus?

How will the ouster of Director Petraeus and Jane Harman's possible appointment to head the CIA deepen Israeli influence and control of US Middle East policy and the US overtures to Islamist countries?

How will the humiliation of General Allen affect the US 'withdrawal' from the disaster in Afghanistan?

#### **Conclusion**

The purge of top-level generals and officials from powerful US foreign policy and military posts reflects a further

decay of our constitutional rights and residual democratic procedures: it is powerful proof of the inability of leadership at the highest level to resolve internecine conflicts without drawing out the 'long knives'. The advance of the police state, where spy agencies have vastly expanded their political power over the citizens, has now evolved into the policing and purging of each other's leadership: the FBI, CIA, Homeland Security, the NSA and the military all reach out and build alliances with the mass media, civilian executive and congressional officials as well as powerful foreign interest 'lobbies' to gain power and leverage in pursuit of their own visions of empire building.

The purge of General Petraeus and humiliation of General Allen is a victory for the civilian militarists who are unconditional supporters of Israel and therefore oppose any opening to 'moderate' Islamist regimes. They want a long-term and expanded US military presence in Afghanistan and elsewhere. The real precipitating factor for this ugly 'fight at the top' is the crumbling of the US empire and how to deal with its new challenges. Signs of decay are everywhere: Military immorality is rampant; the be-medaled generals sodomize their subordinates and amass wealth via pillage of the public treasury and military contracts; politicians are bought and sold by millionaire financial donors, including agents of foreign powers, and foreign interests determine critical US foreign policy.

The disrepute of the US Congress is almost universal - over 87% of US citizen condemn 'the House and Senate' as harmful to public welfare, servants of their own self-enrichment and slaves of corruption. The economic elites are repeatedly involved in massive swindles of retail investors, mortgage holders and each other. Multi-national corporations and the fabulously wealthy engage in capital flight, fattening their overseas accounts. The Executive himself (the

ever-smiling President Obama) sends clandestine death squads and mercenary-terrorists to assassinate adversaries in an effort to compensate for his incapacity to defend the empire with diplomacy or traditional military ground forces or to prop-up new client-states. Cronyism is rife: there is a revolving door between Wall Street and US Treasury and Pentagon officials. Public apathy and cynicism is rife; nearly 50% of the electorate doesn't even vote in Presidential elections and, among those who do vote, over 80% don't expect their elected officials to honor their promises. Aggressive civilian militarists have gained control of key posts and are increasingly free of any constitutional constraints. Meanwhile the costs of military failures and burgeoning spy, security and military budgets soar while the fiscal and trade deficit grows. Faction fights among rival imperial cliques intensify; purges, blackmail, sex scandals and immorality in high places have become the norm. Democratic discourses are hollowed out: democratic state ideology has lost credibility. No sensible American believes in it anymore.

**Is there a broom large enough to clean this filthy Augean stable?**

**Will a 'collective Hercules' emerge from all this intrigue and corruption with the strength of character and commitment to lead the revolutionary charge?**

**Surely the sell-out and crude humiliation of American military officials on behalf of the 'chicken-hawk' civilian militarists and their foreign interests should make many an officer re-think his own career, loyalty and commitment to the Constitution.**

#### **Mufti of Australia slammed for meeting with Hamas in Gaza - Australian government says it will probe allegations of unlawful behavior during Ibrahim Salem's visit - January 4, 2013, 6:47 pm**

**SYDNEY (JTA)** — The mufti of Australia visited Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in the Gaza Strip, triggering condemnation from the country's Jewish community and a potential government probe. Dr. Ibrahim "Abu Mohammed" Salem said he wanted to learn from Hamas leaders in leading a delegation of Australian sheiks and scholars to Gaza last week and meeting Haniyeh. "We came here in

order to learn from Gaza . . . to learn steadfastness, sacrifice, and the defense of one's rights from them," Salem said, according to a translation by the Middle East Media Research Institute. The military wing of Hamas is listed as a proscribed terrorist organization by the Australian government. Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs said authorities would investigate any

allegations of unlawful behavior. Peter Wertheim, the executive director of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, said Salem could learn nothing from Hamas rulers that would have any legitimate application in Australia. "His visit and his comments undermine Australia's efforts to build a peaceful, inclusive and democratic multicultural society," Wertheim said.